

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT 25X1

TOPIC Transfer from the Kindel Training Grounds and Military Activity

in Weissenfels and Merseburg 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE PREPARED 5 November 1954

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

25X1

- The following eastbound trains were assembled at the Eisenach freight station between 16 and 18 October 1954:

16 October. A shipment of 19 AT guns including 8 x 76-mm guns, 28 trucks 25X1

5 boxcars with personnel and 3 boxcars with equipment and ammunition, which departed at 1700. 25X1

18 October. A shipment of 24 x 76-mm field guns, 16 AT guns, 6 x 76-mm AA guns, 4 SU-76 guns, 38 trucks 25X1

12 boxcars with approximately 350 soldiers, 10 boxcars with furniture and equipment and 4 boxcars with ammunition, which left at 1330. 25X1

A shipment of 9 T-34/85 tanks, 1 salvage tank, 13 trucks including 25X1

boxcars with approximately 300 soldiers, 9 boxcars with equipment, and 3 boxcars with ammunition, which left at 1500. 25X1

- Between 1800 and 1900 on 18 October, an undetermined number of track-laying vehicles arrived at the Pionier Kaserne (8522). At 2015, 16 T-34/85 tanks 25X1

25X1

carrying equipment and ammunition entered the installation. In the morning on 19 October, the installation was occupied by an estimated 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, 180 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 70 soldiers of a driving school unit wearing black-bordered red epaulets. At 0700 on 19 October, at least 30 tanks with the above-mentioned 25X1

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

25X1

[redacted] were seen in the barracks yard and SU-guns [redacted] were seen at the loading ramp. Six 37-mm AA guns were seen on the road.

25X1

3. On 19 October, the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) was occupied by approximately 1,250 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. At 0800, trucks [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] towing 57-mm AT guns left the installation toward the town. Four trucks towing 4 x 85-mm AT guns were in the barracks yard.

25X1

4. Between 7 and 17 October, the Flak Kaserne (8321) in Merseburg was occupied by an estimated 2,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 17 October, approximately 63 trucks were stored in the yard, while approximately 1,200 soldiers were lined up for a roll call in the south section of the installation.

Comment. The trains on 16 October and the first train on 18 October probably carried artillery and SP guns of the rifle regiments of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which returned to their winter quarters. Elements of the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div probably followed on the second train on 18 October. According to paragraph 2, the bulk of this regiment arrived in the Pionier Kaserne in Weissenfels in the afternoon on 18 October. Elements of the regiment were entrained in Eisenach as early as 15 October and other elements were entrained in the morning on 19 October.

25X1

[redacted]

In spite to these varying dates, the return of the regiment appears credible.

25X1

INDEX

SECRET